AFL WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Whole No. 2109 — Tuesday, September 11, 1951 — Vol. 41, No. 37

AFL Leads In Atomic Energy Plants

Brownlow Lists 14 Units Organized, 14 to Go

San Francisco.—AFL unions hold bargaining rights for 30,000 workers in 14 of the nation's atomic energy plants.

In the first compilation of its kind, President James A. Brownlow of the Metal Trades Department revealed that the AFL holds a 3 to 1 lead in number of plants organized and members represented over CIO and independent unions.

He listed 14 other plants under construction, not yet in operation, or with no union and urged immediate and expanded efforts to organize the employes in AFL unions.

To the 42d annual convention of the Metal Trades Department he said: "There can be no greater gain accruing to the AFL than the complete organization of the atomic energy plants."

AFL unions are collective bargaining representatives at the biggest installation in operation, Hanford, Wash., employing more than 8,000 workers.

Among big plants under construction or not completed are the huge Savannah River H-bomb installation and others at Idaho Falls, Ida.; Denver, Colo.; Fernald Station, O.; Oak Ridge, Tenn.; Livermore, Calif.

"Never in the history of industrial America has there been in such a short time the development of any industry with the same rapidity, size, cost and importance as that of the atomic energy plant," Mr. Brownlow said.

"It is quickly reaching the point where it will stand first of all industries in the United States."

Mr. Brownlow said the AFL had won bargaining rights in the industry only by "long, sustained organizing campaigns." He said the AFL crafts organization in many of the plants under Metal Trades atomic councils had conclusively proved that the AFL can organize on an industry-wide basis. He urged international unions to throw more organizers into the field to handle needs of the rapidly expanding industry.

JAMES A. BROWNLOW
President
AFL Metal Trades Department

Build Ships On 3 Coasts

San Francisco.—Construction and repair of a U. S. Merchant Marine fleet superior to any in the world must be carried out with an equitable distribution of the work on Pacific, Atlantic and Gulf Coasts.

President James A. Brownlow of the AFL Metal Trades Department told the 42nd convention that "the full force of the Metal Trades Department and the American Federation of Labor must be used to the end that we can again say we are independent of any nation or group of nations in the carrying of our commerce."

"There must be a more equitable distribution than has existed up to the present time of shipbuilding and ship repair," he said. "The 3 coastal areas must share in our national maritime development if balance and equity are to be retained."

Mr. Brownlow said that the construction of 35 vessels of modern design now underway or recently commissioned "represent the first real gesture toward re-establishment of a merchant marine comparable to those possessed by some of the other nations."

He described the United States as "a staggering sixth" among the nations with merchant fleets.

Mr. Brownlow said employment in shipbuilding and navy yards is increasing. He said relations with the Navy Department are improving and that union organization is growing.

He called for continuation of the Pacific Coast Master Shipbuilding agreement which at its peak in World War II covered 500,000 workers in AFL metal trades and other unions.

Politics, Labor Unity on Agenda

AFL Union Gains Outstrip Cost-of-Living Escalators

San Francisco.—AFL union wage gains have outstripped the cost of living in the past 12 years.

This was pointed out by President James A. Brownlow of the AFL Metal Trades Department in his report to the 42d annual convention.

Mr. Brownlow expressed concern on "the seeming acceptance of some organizations of gearing wage rates to the cost of living."

"Had the policy been pursued by the AFL since its inception," Mr. Brownlow said, "the gains made by labor would have been limited indeed."

In 1939, he said, the average straight-time wage was $24.88 per 40-hour week whereas in April 1951 it was $60.80. In the same period living costs increased $21.32. The increased take-home before taxes is $14.70, after taxes $5.95 a week.

"This is clear and conclusive proof that substantial gains over and above the cost of living have been made by the trade unions who have not attempted to retain parity between the cost of living and wages," Mr. Brownlow said.

Chapman, Tobin, Others to Address 70th AFL Convention

San Francisco.—Two cabinet members head the list of distinguished speakers scheduled to address the 70th annual convention of the American Federation of Labor which opens Monday, Sept. 17, at the Civic Auditorium.

They are Secretary of Interior Oscar Chapman and Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin.

Among the more important issues to be considered by the convention are defense policies, including measures to combat inflation; an international program to halt the spread of Communism; political policies for the 1952 campaign, and labor unity.

President William Green will deliver his keynote address to the convention at the opening session. Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin is scheduled to speak Monday afternoon.

While the committees are holding hearings and preparing their reports, the convention will hear from a number of outstanding speakers during the first week. Among these are Federal Security Administrator Oscar R. Ewing, Commander Erle Cocke, Jr., of the American Legion, Gov. Sidney S. McMath of Arkansas, Special Assistant to the President W. Averell Harriman, Price Stabilization Administrator Michael V. DiSalle, former President Paul Finet of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, Defense Production Administrator Manly Fleischmann, Secretary-General David A. Morse of the International Labor Organization, Secretary Tobin, Secretary Chapman.

President Truman is sending a message to the convention which will be read to the delegates.

According to present plans, the convention will recess Wednesday or Thursday, Sept. 19 or 20, and meet as the national committee of Labor's League for Political Education to draw up a political program for the 1952 campaign.

Amarillo Seeks Atomic Poll

Amarillo, Tex. — A new Atomic Trades and Labor Council has been created at Amarillo for the purpose of bargaining for the many trades and the contractors with the Atomic Energy installations at Amarillo.

An application for charter for the Atomic Trades and Labor Council was made on Aug. 20, from the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor.

An active organizing campaign among the employes of this plant has been launched, and an election conducted by the National Labor Relations Board has been requested.

Favor MVA Flood Plan

San Francisco.—The AFL Building and Construction Trades Department executive council favors legislation for a Mississippi Valley Authority for flood control.

The council told the department's 44th annual convention it favored a resolution to be sent to President Truman, members of Congress and the American Federation of Labor asking laws to provide for engineering, construction and operation of flood control in the Mississippi Valley area.

The AFL favored in previous conventions the creation of Missouri, Columbia and Colorado Valley Authorities in line with recommendations made to Congress when hearings were held on bills setting up such programs. Congress has not acted finally on these proposals.

The AFL supported, and its affiliated unions are dominant in, the successful Tennessee Valley Authority.

Take pride in your union—insist on the "label" on all goods.

Seattle Union Wins Damages

Seattle, Wash.—The Seattle AFL Welders Union Local 541 is believed to be the first union in the nation to recover damages from an employer under Section 301 of the Taft-Hartley Act.

A federal court jury awarded $1,000 for damages caused by breach of contract by the Waitsburg Welding Works, Inc., Walla Walla.

The union charged that the firm had breached its contract and refused to bargain under Section 301 which allows employers or unions to sue for breach of contract. Employers have filed hundreds of suits under this section.

An all-male jury from 5 counties took 3 hours to decide for the union, which had sought $25,000 damages.

FIRST IN 15 YEARS

Los Angeles.—The 1951 September meeting of the executive board of the AFL International Ladies Garment Workers Union was the first held here since 1936.

Green Tells Plumbers New Congress Needed

Kansas City, Mo.—AFL President William Green predicted that the 70th AFL convention opening in San Francisco Sept. 17 "will take sweeping action to secure a house-cleaning of Congress."

"We are determined to break the aggressive power of the Tory coalition in Congress in the American way," he told the convention of the AFL United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada.

"At a time when all Americans feel the call to respond to the nation's needs and to sacrifice together for the common defense, the coalition of reactionary Republicans and Dixiecrats in Congress is following the policy of soaking the poor and sparing the rich."

Mr. Green said he was confident that the Plumbers and the AFL would take "courageous action against the enemies of democracy who threaten our security."

Delegates to the Plumbers convention got a first-hand opportunity to witness the terrific damage caused in this area by last summer's disastrous flood.

How Business Corrupts Schools

Since the first public school opened its doors in the United States, big business interests have been sitting in the driver's seat. No vicious schemes or plot were needed to accomplish this end—from the outset educators over-emphasized the role business plays in our nation. Until very recently, our schools completely ignored both the laborers who made the accomplishments of the "Industrial Giants" possible, and the labor unions which greatly contributed to American progress through raising wages, shortening hours, and improving working conditions.

Bosses Spend $1 Million Daily

The influence of big business in the schools has been increased through the conscious efforts of big business groups like the National Association of Manufacturers. The NAM spends, on the average, a million dollars a day to make the American people believe that what is good for big business is good for them—and the major targets of this propaganda barrage are the children in the schools.

Here is just one example of the type of propaganda aimed at our schools: In October 1949 the NAM distributed to social science teachers in 25,000 schools a professional-looking booklet called "A Catalogue of Teaching Aids." The NAM hoped teachers would use the booklet in "planning classroom work" — and many undoubtedly did. Every publication to which teachers are directed by the booklet shows management in an angelic light. And not one of those publications gives an iota of information about the role of labor organizations in the economic life of the country!

Boast a Wide Reading

For years booklets, movies, lectures, industrial exhibits, graduation addresses, holiday programs, a monthly newsletter on education, and similar materials have been distributed to the schools by the NAM. Officials of the association claim that their booklets are read by two out of every three American high school students. They boast that many students are taught the history of the American labor movement from an NAM booklet, and that this publication has become required reading for many students!

While the NAM is the most potent of the big business groups, it is not alone in its interest in "education." Individual corporations and other business associations, like the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, all attempt to mold American thinking through getting schools to propagandize for them.

Labor Looks at Books

Labor has always taken an active role in supporting public schools, but has not—until very recently—paid much attention to the content of education. In recent years, however, labor representatives have been appearing at school board hearings and demanding that the whole story be given to students. Labor candidates have been running for school boards (and winning, too!) and labor publications have been placed in some school libraries.

Many teachers, too, have become aware of the great void in the high school curriculum. They are aware that, in tapping the community resources for material to present to the pupils, they have to talk about labor organizations because at least two-thirds of their high school graduates are going to work in stores, offices and industries where there are unions. Moreover, teachers are learning about unions through their own union, the American Federation of Teachers.

As a result of these developments important changes are taking place in our schools. In Superior, Wis., for example, the superintendent of schools and his staff have recognized the need to make education more realistic. After months of study preparation and consultation with all elements in the community, the Superior schools have launched a new course for 11th grade pupils called "Organized Labor and its Importance to Civic Life."

In my own city of Milwaukee, the board of school directors recently passed a measure which will assure labor speakers a chance to be heard as a part of school vocational guidance and similar programs. While labor speakers are far from being taxed by calls from the schools, the system is at least a step in the right direction.

Similar experiments aimed at treating labor more frequently in the school curriculum have been taken in a number of other cities—chiefly as a result of the growing interest of the labor movement in the content of education. This interest, incidentally, has been sparked in large part by the teachers themselves. Working under low salary schedules (some cities have no salary schedules at all) and intensely conscious of the growing deterioration of the school plant itself, teachers have come to the labor movement for help. In their association with other unionists, they have increased the interest of the labor movement in education.

No Quick, Easy Solution

Much remains to be done before labor will have a hearing in the schools equal to management's. Traditional ideas and methods have such a strong hold on our educational system that only concerted effort on the part of the labor movement—and continuous effort throughout the next 10 or 20 years—will erase the strong pro-management slant characteristic of most current textbooks, and probably of most teachers.

Labor is not interested in having the schools propagandize for it. Labor desires only that both sides of the story be told in the schools. That is the American way!

Labor Asks Only That Pupils Be Taught Both Sides

By GEORGE HAMPEL, JR.
Member Board of School Directors, Milwaukee, Wis.
Editor Wisconsin AFL Federationist
(From The AFL Auto Worker)

WHY NOT CHECK YOUR SCHOOLS?

Washington.—The AFL and its affiliated American Federation of Teachers have condemned repeatedly the use of the schools for anti-labor purposes.

Both the National Association of Manufacturers and the Chamber of Commerce of the United States are busily engaged in this technique, striking through influential local business men.

George Hampel, Jr., editor, Wisconsin AFL Federationist, describing these techniques, points out that organized labor was the earliest champion of good public schools but that it has not yet become seriously enough concerned about the content of education.

Central Labor Unions might check on the activities of their local school boards to see if the story of labor is being presented. As Mr. Hampel asserts, labor does not want its views propagandized among the youngsters; it only wants its story told, too.

AFL MEMBER CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL WINNER.—Milwaukee, Wis.—Sgt. Einar Ingman (left), member AFL United Auto Workers Local 849, and decorated by President Truman with the Congressional Medal of Honor, highest recognition for war heroes, receives $100 Defense Savings Bond from Auto Workers President Lester Washburn as a token of esteem of union members throughout the country. Sgt. Ingman is the only living Wisconsin man to win the Medal of Honor and is only one of 3 Korean army veterans, out of 27, to survive wounds received in his heroic deed. He wiped out two Red machine gun emplacements and put hundreds of Communists to flight. (United Auto Worker Photo.)

European Dockers Braced For Reds' Autumn Attack

London.—Europe's free dockworkers braced themselves for a fresh Communist assault during the forthcoming autumn months.

AFL unions affiliated to the International Transportworkers Federation will support the work of ITF Vigilance Committee in the Scandinavian and Baltic, North Sea and Atlantic Coast, and Mediterranean areas.

After 2 years of activity all 3 regional committees were able to report to the Central Vigilance Committee in London that the Communist threat, which at certain times and at certain points had been very acute, had been halted and that the free and democratic trade unions now had the situation under control.

On the other hand, information laid before the committee indicated that the Communists, though repulsed, had not given up their intentions.

In fact, it is known that they are planning to stage a come-back some time during the autumn.

The Central Vigilance Committee gave consideration to these Communist plans and to ways and means of countering them and the members returned to their respective regions in the knowledge that the free and democratic trade unions of the dockers and seafarers of western Europe would again stand together in repulsing any fresh outbreak of Communist disturbances in the maritime and waterfront industries.

90 PERCENT VOTE IN JAPAN

San Francisco. — President Truman told the Japanese Peace Treaty Conference that in recent local elections in Japan more than 90 percent of those eligible voted.

Then he departed from his prepared address to remark:

"I wish we could do as well."

Getting out the vote is the primary objective of the AFL Labor's League for Political Education.

TO VISIT S. A.

Havana, Cuba.—Francisco Aguirre, secretary American Regional Organization of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, and Serafino Romualdi, assistant secretary and AFL Latin American representative, will visit Latin American countries beginning the last week of September.

Mr. Romualdi will attend the executive board meeting of the Inter-American Association for Democracy and Freedom in Uruguay and visit Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Trinidad and Puerto Rico.

Mr. Aguirre will visit Bolivia, Chile and Panama.

In all countries they will meet with free trade union leaders and discuss problems of mutual interest.

ICFTU Backs AFL On Treaty

Brussels, Belgium.—Secretary-General J. H. Oldenbroek of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions called for the incorporation of definite guarantees of human rights, including trade union rights, in the peace settlement with Japan negotiated at San Francisco.

The ICFTU appeal in effect supported the AFL Executive Council statement on the Japanese peace treaty adopted at the May 1951 meeting.

The AFL council urged that "the constitutional provision guaranteeing freedom of trade union organization should remain intact and inviolable."

The AFL referred to the post-war constitution put into effect in Japan by the allied army occupation.

President Truman in his welcoming address to the peace treaty conference pointed to the establishment and growth of free trade unions in Japan as one of the major accomplishments of the occupation.

PLACE 3,500th SIGN

New York.—AFL Bartenders Union Local 15 proudly placed its 3,500th union bar sign to Cat and Fiddle Cafe, 601 Lexington Ave., marking Union Label Week proclaimed by Mayor Vincent Impelliteri Sept. 2-8.

Study Bolivia Tin Problem

Washington.—The State Department advised the AFL that the United States is concerned with improving the working conditions and levels of living of Bolivian tin workers.

Thomas C. Mann, acting Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, replied to a letter sent by Serafino Romualdi, AFL Latin American representative, who asked the government to avoid creating an economic emergency for Bolivia over the purchase price of tin needed for U. S. stockpiling purposes.

Mr. Romualdi acted in response to a request from the Bolivian Confederation of Workers affiliated with the regional organization of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

"You may be sure that this government will continue in its efforts to assist the Bolivian government to improve the working conditions and levels of living of its people in the most effective and practical manner possible," Mr. Mann said.

The Bolivian workers asked AFL aid to get the Reconstruction Finance Corp. to earmark higher prices paid for tin to be used for financing an overdue social security and welfare program for the workers.

CHARTER 58

Halifax, Nova Scotia.—The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada's 66th convention was told that charters were issued to 58 new federal labor unions during the fiscal year ended last June 30. Deducting losses, the net gain for the year was 50 new federal locals and 5,000 new members.

In addition, the 71 international unions affiliated to TLC paid per capita tax on 26,000 more members during the year.

TLC reported 62 trades and labor councils affiliated.

Cahan Helped Organize Workers With Daily Paper

New York. — Working men and women and the officers of their trade unions honored Abraham Cahan at funeral services for his long and outstanding efforts to improve the hours and wages of labor.

An associate of the late Samuel Gompers, Mr. Cahan won world-wide fame as edit. of The Jewish Daily Forward, the world's greatest Jewish daily newspaper. Mr. Cahan died at 91 on Aug. 31 in Beth Israel Hospital.

A Russian revolutionist at 20, a successful American novelist and journalist at 30, editor of a moribund little Socialist Yiddish daily at 40, he became the dominant force of the greatest Jewish daily in the world at 50, a position which he occupied to the end of his life. Wherever Yiddish is spoken Mr. Cahan's name was known as editor of The Jewish Daily Forward.

Like The Forward he was an institution. He exercised a deep influence upon the birth and development of the big needle trades and other labor organizations which came to occupy a position of prime importance in the American labor movement.

The vast improvement in working and living conditions of the East Side masses and their colonies in Harlem, the Bronx, Brooklyn and Brownsville, as well as in other business and industrial centers of the country, received a strong impetus from the word and writings of Mr. Cahan. In his literary sketches and novels he wrote with art and understanding of the life and toil of these masses.

In his everyday work as a newspaper man and labor spokesman he contributed materially to the elimination of the sweatshop and the elevation of the living and cultural standards of his own people and the working masses as a whole.

Upon returning to The Forward in 1902, at the insistence of his friends, he found the paper with only 6,000 circulation. By applying the principles of English-speaking journalism and making it vivid and interesting, Mr. Cahan soon transformed it into a powerful and successful organ, its circulation eventually going up to 200,000.

Green, Meany Praise Cahan

Washington.—AFL President William Green and Secretary-Treasurer George Meany praised the lifetime services of Abraham Cahan, editor The Jewish Daily Forward, in telegrams of sympathy upon his death in New York Aug. 31.

"Abraham Cahan was a philosopher, an author, a progressive fighter for the promotion of human welfare and a revolutionist where the masses of people were denied enjoyment of freedom, liberty and democracy," Mr. Green said. "He will live long in our hearts, in our minds and in our affections."

"In the death of Abraham Cahan," Mr. Meany said, "the AFL and free working men everywhere have lost a champion and devoted fellow worker. From my long association with the American Federation of Labor in New York, I know first hand how much Abe Cahan's ideals and services contributed to the upbuilding and growth of this organization."

DEATH RATES FALL

Washington.—Death rates in the United States for acute poliomyelitis, tuberculosis and measles fell significantly in 1950 compared with 1949.

The death rate for acute poliomyelitis, per 100,000 population, fell off by 39 percent in 1950; tuberculosis dropped 16 percent, and the death rate for measles was cut in half.

MacGowan, Gray at BTUC, Return For Convention

Blackpool, England. — AFL Vice President Charles J. MacGowan asserted that Marshall Plan funds to aid Europe have done more to strengthen monopolies there than to raise workers' living standards.

He said he would raise the issue at the AFL 70th convention in San Francisco opening Sept. 17. The AFL Executive Council has asked that these funds be used more effectively to help European workers.

Mr. MacGowan and Richard J. Gray, president AFL Building and Construction Trades Council, were AFL fraternal delegates to address the annual meeting of the British Trades Union Congress.

They headed for home immediately to attend sessions of the AFL Building and Construction Trades, Metal Trades Departments and the AFL.

As part of his mission, Mr. MacGowan, president of the Boilermakers, delivered a message from AFL President William Green to the BTUC urging the British unionists to use all their influence with the British government to halt the flow of supplies to Red China and the Communists fighting United Nations forces in Korea.

Mr. Gray told BTUC of the disastrous effects of the union-busting Taft-Hartley law on labor organizations.

Wage Freeze Blocks Production, Taylor Says, Leaving WSB

Washington.—A rigid wage freeze would block defense production.

That clear-cut warning was given by Dr. George W. Taylor, who retired Aug. 31 as chairman of the Wage Stabilization Board, in a statesmanlike report on developing WSB policies.

Nathan P. Feinsinger, University of Wisconsin professor and member of the War Labor Board during World War II, succeeded Dr. Taylor, who returned to the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Taylor gave the lie to hysterical claims of the National Association of Manufacturers, Chamber of Commerce of the United States, and ill-informed editorial writers of the Big Business daily press that wage increases generally are inflationary. Here are highlights of his report:

"In developing its policies, the Wage Stabilization Board has not only the objective of wage stabilization, but also 3 other objectives to keep in mind—the preservation of industrial relations stability, the preservation of collective bargaining to the fullest possible extent and the fostering of maximum defense production.

"If you keep wages rigid and don't get guns which are needed, or airplanes which are needed, the cost in holding the wage line might be too great in terms of the impediments to the arms program.

"A wage stabilization program adapted to defense production needs and to proper consideration of equity cannot be achieved simply by freezing wages at some selected date.

"Nor can it be accomplished through a single formula such as the imposition of a 10 percent ceiling on wage adjustments.

"Such a ceiling would be a freeze at a higher level. Such arbitrary approaches would have little merit if they left glaring inequities which would result in losses of production through employee dissatisfaction, strikes, or inability to secure the right labor at the right place and at the right time.

"Lower productivity and lower production could aggravate the inflationary tendencies prevalent in the economy as seriously as increased purchasing power resulting from wage increases.

"Wages provide purchasing power. "But they also have other economic functions to perform. When people are paid sensibly in accord with the work and skill involved, there then exists an incentive to production. That is also the basis for stable industrial relationships.

"The kind of a wage stabilization program that is needed is one which will regulate wage movements in such a way as to minimize inflationary pressures, buttress price controls and prevent manpower pirating while retaining the flexibility necessary to correct hardships and inequities and encourage maximum industrial output.

"The cooperation of labor and management is essential in the development and administration of a wage stabilization program in a nation of a democracy. Their expert knowledge and first-hand experience with the complex problems of industrial relations is essential to the formulation of a workable program.

"Wage stabilization also requires restraint. The presence and participation of labor and management representatives on the WSB tends to exert an affirmative restraining influence on these two large segments of our economy and encourage broad acceptance of the wage control program.

"Contrary to the period of World War II, there is no formal no-strike pledge in effect, and indeed no one advocates the outlawing of the fundamental right to strike in a limited mobilization period.

"The administration of a wage stabilization program by a tripartite board implies, however, participation in the development of wage restrictions by all parties in the economy, and is thus effective as an assurance of some measure of industrial relations stability, even without a formal no-strike pledge.

"The current wage stabilization effort is based on such a foundation—voluntary compliance with policies and regulations hammered out in the give-and-take atmosphere of a tripartite board composed of experienced representatives of labor, management, and the public."

WAGE HISTORY AT A GLANCE

Washington.—Dr. George W. Taylor, who retired Aug. 31 as Wage Stabilization Board chairman, gave a history of recent wage developments in his final report. In brief, he said:

1949—"Wage rates were relatively stable."

1950—"Characterized by unstabilizing of wage relationships."

1951—"The task was to unscramble the mess which the country's wage structure had gotten into during the turbulent year of 1950."

Future—"Wage stabilization policies look toward the future and to the possibility of changing economic conditions. How will manpower shortages be dealt with? What kind of wage stabilization rules are necessary to enable employers to carry on the day-to-day operations of their plants? What happens to wages if the cost-of-living continues to rise?"

Dr. Taylor said the board is now going ahead on policies to deal with these and other problems.

Okay 10% Hike For Building

Washington.—The Wage Stabilization Board approved a statement of policy, unanimously recommended by the Construction Industry Stabilization Commission, empowering the commission to approve petitions to increase wages 10 percent over the level of rates prevailing in the construction industry at the outbreak of the Korean war.

The 10 percent figure is to remain unchanged until Jan. 1, 1952.

The commission's statement of policy:

1. Since the base date of Jan. 15, 1950 falls between seasons in the construction industry at a time when rates negotiated for the 1949 season were still effective; the base date should be advanced generally to June 24, 1950; and to July 1, 1950 in cases where the contract establishing the July 1 rates was executed prior to June 24. Abnormal cases would be considered on a case by case basis.

2. Increases should be approvable up to 10 percent above the area rates on the base date.

3. No change should be made in this policy effective prior to Jan. 1, 1952.

RULES AGAINST CIO

Trenton, N. J.—The New Jersey Superior Court appellate division threw out a claim by the CIO shipbuilders' union that it still held bargaining rights for 5,000 workers at New York Shipbuilding Corp., Camden, N. J. The AFL Boilermakers won bargaining rights for the employes May 29, 1950, in a National Labor Relations Board election and the court so found.

CARPENTERS TO BUILD McGUIRE MEMORIAL.—Camden, N. J.—The AFL Brotherhood of Carpenters plan to erect $100,000 memorial to the union's first president and founder of Labor Day, Peter J. McGuire, at site of his grave in Pennsauken Cemetery on Labor Day 1951, at Mr. McGuire's grave, AFL Organizer Daniel J. Healey placed wreath as Mr. McGuire's three daughters and great-grandson watched. L. to r., Mrs. Katherine Caya, Lillian and Myrtis McGuire, Mr. Healey and Wallace Rossell, great-grandson. (Philadelphia Inquirer Photo.)

KATHARINE LENROOT HONORED.—Washington.—Katharine F. Lenroot, retiring chief U. S. Children's Bureau, receives Federal Security Agency's Distinguished Service Award from Deputy Federal Security Administrator John L. Thurston (right). William L. Mitchell (center) is deputy commissioner for social security. Miss Lenroot served 36 years in the Children's Bureau, the past 17 as chief. She was succeeded Sept. 4 by Dr. Martha M. Eliot. (Federal Security Agency Photo.)

Congress, Administration Fail Mexican Pledges

El Paso, Tex.—A record of complete failure by the Congress and Administration on the Mexican Farm Labor Import Law was laid bare by President H. L. Mitchell of the AFL National Farm Labor Union.

He submitted the record to a conference of officials from Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California state federations of labor called by AFL President William Green.

The conference was called to map a program of joint AFL-Mexican action to deal with evils created under the Ellender-Poage law passed by the Dixiecrat-Republican 82d Congress.

Mr. Mitchell's bill of particulars included:

1. Congress passed the Ellender-Poage bill completely ignoring a report of President Truman's Commission on Migratory Labor and Mr. Truman "reluctantly, of course, signed it."

2. Mr. Truman when he signed on July 13 said "I could not have given my approval to this act had I not been assured by congressional leaders that supplementary legislation and appropriations would receive prompt consideration at this session."

3. Congressional leaders promised Mr. Truman that they would consider favorably his requests for funds to implement the law and changes to strengthen the act.

4. On Aug. 20, the House of Representatives, led by Republican John Phillips of California, voted against giving the U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service a single penny for their program to liberate and deport 500,000 Mexican illegal farm workers (wethacks) from slavery on the corporation farms of border states.

5. The House also turned its back on the Department of Labor request for additional funds to recruit U. S. farm workers by cutting the appropriation for this purpose to a miserable $75,000.

6. No word of indignation or protest and no plea for Congress to fulfill its leadership pledges has come from the Administration.

"American labor standards throughout the United States, but particularly in the border states of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California, are being threatened by a well-planned and financed campaign of the National Manufacturers' Association, the National Grange, the Farm Bureau, the National Cotton Council and the Chambers of Commerce that have as their goal the exploitation of cheap foreign American labor, legally or illegally," Mr. Mitchell said.

"Their menacing influence extends from enacting legislation to directing administrative policies detrimental both to American workers and imported foreign workers who are legally in the United States.

WSB Conforms To All Laws

Washington.—The Wage Stabilization Board as reconstituted by President Truman last May does not bypass the Taft-Hartley or any other laws.

Dr. George W. Taylor, who retired as WSB chairman Aug. 31, scotched the phony claims of Big Business and its representatives in Congress that President Truman by-passed Taft-Hartley when he accepted the 12-4 recommendation of his National Mobilization Advisory Board to give WSB authority over disputes affecting defense mobilization.

"The WSB has jurisdiction in disputes only after collective bargaining and mediation and conciliation have failed," Dr. Taylor said. "And only if the parties agree to submit their dispute or the President refers it to the board.

"Voluntarism is the keynote in this process.

"There is even less compulsion than under the War Labor Board of World War II which had powers of subpoena and the right to intervene in a dispute on its own motion.

"This new mechanism for the settlement of disputes is in full harmony with the needs of the emergency. It does not by-pass nor replace existing procedures established by law.

"It simply represents the minimal technique which the government could provide to meet the problem of labor-management disputes occasioned by and having impact on the mobilization effort."

There's an opinion of an impartial expert of the procedure which it took united labor 10 weeks to get accepted and only after a boycott of government defense agencies simply because Big Business running the defense mobilization didn't want a fair and equitable method for handling disputes.

Woll Raps Spare Rich Tax Bill

New York.—AFL Vice President Matthew Woll, chairman AFL Committee on Taxation, charged that the tax measure written by the Senate Finance Committee "is not in accord with economic realities nor the national welfare."

AFL President William Green previously said that the Senate committee controlled by Dixiecrats and reactionary Republicans are writing a "soak-the-poor, spare-the-rich" tax measure. The bill is on the Senate's "must list" for passage before Oct. 1 adjournment.

Mr. Woll sent post-Labor Day letters to members of the Senate Finance Committee, President Truman and Secretary of Treasury John W. Snyder protesting committee actions reported to date in the daily press.

He criticized the Senate for failure to concur in the House-approved bill to raise $6.83 billion in new taxes.

"Further, we do not believe that the amendments proposed by your committee are equitable nor that they will operate to check inflation effectively," Mr. Woll said. "We believe the action up to this point is not in accord with economic realities nor the national welfare."

Mr. Woll specifically singled out for criticism the unjust favoritism granted married couples with $5,000 income under the split-income provision; the reduction of corporation taxes from $3 to $2.28 billion, and the increase in excise taxes on cost of living items.

"Increases in living costs will inevitably be reflected in demands for higher wages or a decrease in living standards of those in the lower income groups," he said.

Housing Law Relaxes Credit

Washington. — President Truman signed into law the housing measure passed by Congress as the real estate lobbies demanded.

Falling far short of goals set by the American Federation of Labor, the law reduces the required down payments on homes costing $12,000 or less.

The new law also extends the time limit for paying off mortgages on such homes to 25 years, instead of the present 20. The new rules were voted by Congress in an effort to encourage construction of low and moderate priced homes for defense workers.

The law retains the present system of permitting veterans who get a guaranteed loan from the Veterans Administration to buy homes for a smaller down payment than nonveterans. The new schedule of minimum required down payments follows:

Cost of house	Down payment Non-Vets.	Vets.
$7,000 and under	4 pc.	10 pc.
$7,000 to $10,000	6 pc.	15 pc.
$10,000 to $12,000	8 pc.	20 pc.

The previous rules required down payments ranging from 7.1 percent to 15.8 percent for veterans and from 17 to 25.8 percent for others. On homes costing more than $12,000, down payment requirements are unchanged. They range up to 45 percent for veterans and 50 percent for nonveterans on homes costing more than $24,250.

26 Labor Papers Win Editorial Awards

San Francisco.—Twenty-six labor newspapers won award-of-merit citations for editorial achievements in the 1951 competition of International Labor Press of America.

The awards were picked from 220 entries and will be announced at the 40th anniversary banquet of ILPA at Sir Francis Drake Hotel, Sept. 16.

Chairman of the judges' committee was Dr. Fredric S. Siebert, director School of Journalism at the University of Illinois.

A. J. Hayes, president International Association of Machinists, will be the principal speaker at the ILPA banquet. AFL President William Green, Vice President Matthew Woll, who is president of ILPA, will also speak.

The convention opens with editorial forums Friday, Sept. 14. Convention sessions Sept. 15 and 16 will hear a report by the U. S. Federal Trade Commission on a nation-wide investigation in the past 8 months of unethical labor publications which have been denounced by ILPA as "racketeers."

Establishment of a "World Secretariat of Journalists" to combat the Communist-dominated world journalists' organization will be discussed.

GIVE VETS UNION CAKES

Washington.—Eight AFL union-made cakes were presented to Walter Reed Hospital during Union Label Week observance here.

Building Trades Push Carolina Organizing

San Francisco.—The AFL Building and Construction Trades is pushing an organizing drive in North and South Carolina—site of the new hugh Savannah River H-bomb project.

The Department Executive Council said in its report to the 44th annual departmental convention that international unions had been requested to send organizing representatives into the area early in 1951.

A charter for a South Carolina State Building and Construction Trades Department was issued.

During the year, the Building and Construction Trades Councils in Clarksburg, Fairmont and Morgantown, W. Va., were consolidated into one council for the area.

The department fought a long series of court proceedings against reactionary employers or "front" organizations, many of them brought under the Taft-Hartley law. They included Texas, Los Angeles, and Bay City, Mich.

RICHARD J. GRAY
President
AFL Building Trades

JOSEPH D. KEENAN
Secretary
AFL Building Trades

Nick Alifas To Retire

Washington.—N.P. Alifas, president District 44 International Association of Machinists for 40 years, told the annual convention that he would retire when his present term expires next Dec. 31.

Mr. Alifas helped to organize the district which covers all IAM lodges in navy yards and other government facilities.

He began his career at the American Steel & Wire Co., Joliet, Ill. He moved to the government's Rock Island arsenal after the 1904 strike of machinists at Joliet.

One of his notable battles for the machinists and all trade unions was the successful fight he waged against the Taylor speed-up system in the navy yards. The system was abandoned in 1915 and every move to revive it was defeated.

Mr. Alifas was made acting district president in 1911 and elected to the presidency in 1912, a post he has held continuously since then.

In 1912 he succeeded the late William H. Johnston who in that year was elected international president of the IAM.

In announcing his retirement Mr. Alifas said, "I express my sincere appreciation of the support I have received during the 40 years that I have been district president. Because of the fine support of local lodge officers and members everywhere, wages and working conditions for government employes have come a long way since the day I took office in 1911."

One of the major tasks of the convention of 100 delegates from all over the United States, Panama and Hawaii is to have the 26 days paid leave restored for government workers. The reactionary 82d Congress cut the leave to 20 days in July.

Reagan Again Heads Actors

Hollywood, Calif. — Twenty-three actors and actresses have been nominated for the AFL Screen Actors Guild board of directors, to be voted on in the annual election.

Incumbent President Ronald Reagan and 1st Vice President William Holden head the official ticket, both being renominated for another one-year term.

Walter Pidgeon was nominated for 2d vice president; John Lund, 3d vice president; Paul Harvey, recording secretary. Treasurer George Chandler was renominated for another one-year term.

Nominated for 3-year terms on the guild board of directors were: Louise Beavers, Chick Chandler, Nancy Davis, Rosemary De Camp, Frank Faylen, Robert Keith, Bud Linn, Cliff Lyons, Tyrone Power, Regis Toomey and Lurene Tuttle. Nominated for 2-year terms were George Murphy and Lyle Talbot. Nominated for 1-year terms were Fredric Clark and Rhys Williams.

Class A-J nominees for 3-year terms are Gertrude Astor and Philo McCullough.

Board members whose terms of office do not expire this year are: Leon Ames, Edward Arnold, Ann Blyth, Ward Bond, Macdonald Carey, Richard Carlson, Wendell Corey, Anne Cornwall, William Demarest, Glenn Ford, Rosh Hussey, William A. Jannsen, John Lund, William Lundigan, Warren Mace, Stephen McNally, Agnes Moorehead, Walter Pidgeon, Robert Preston, George Sowards, Kent Taylor, Audrey Totter.

HANDBOOK ISSUED

Washington.—Just issued is a new 575-page edition of the Occupational Outlook Handbook, released jointly by Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin and Administrator of Veterans' Affairs Carl R. Gray, Jr. It contains complete reports on 433 occupations by which Americans earn their living.

Copies are available to the public, at $3 each, from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

LEAGUE RESUMES

New York.—The New York Women's Trade Union League resumed work with the first membership meeting of the fall and winter season set for Sept. 10.

Gerel Rubien, president, will be chairman of a new course, "Labor Today," which will feature lectures and discussion by union leaders and journalists.

Murray Eliot of the Theatre Workshop at University of California in Los Angeles, will conduct the drama workshop and Dr. Harold Sheppard, industrial sociologist on leave from Wayne University, Detroit, will conduct the psychology class, "Problems of Every Day Living."

Actors' Unions Donate $16,500

Hollywood, Calif. — Theater Authority Inc., nonprofit charitable organization administered by the major AFL actors' unions to regulate the field of benefit performances, distributed to actors' charities the sum of $16,500.

This was a semi-annual distribution of Theater Authority's share of the gate at benefit performances for various causes, for which performers donate their time and talents. It brought to $267,587.40 the total amount distributed to actors' charities by the West Coast Executive Committee of Theater Authority since April 14, 1938, it was announced by Ken Carpenter of the American Federation of Radio Artists, chairman of the committee.

Union charities and welfare funds sharing in latest distribution were: Screen Actors Guild for Motion Picture Relief Fund, $4,125; American Guild of Variety Artists, $4,125; Actors Equity Association, $2,475; American Federation of Radio Artists, $2,475; American Guild of Musical Artists, $1,650; emergency fund for special cases, $1,650.

EDUCATION WEEK SET

Washington.—American Education Week will be observed Nov. 11-17.

AFL Delivers Setback To Millionaires' Rider

Washington.—The AFL threw a big road bloc in the path of the campaign to repeal the Federal Income Tax Amendment (16th) and substitute a provision limiting federal income taxes to 25 percent.

George Riley, legislative representative, told the AFL Executive Council that the AFL campaign of opposition by state federations began last spring when 25 states had approved the so-called "Millionaires' Amendment."

Approval by only 32 states was needed to put the amendment through by a constitutional convention—a device unused since the Constitution was written.

Mr. Riley said that as a result of AFL state federations' actions state legislatures repealed or governors vetoed the "Millionaires' Amendment" in so many states that the amendment now has the approval of only 14 states.

These are Delaware, Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Utah and Wyoming.

The campaign to repeal the 16th Amendment has been under way by the American Taxpayers Association for 15 years. Only "Labor," the railroad brotherhoods' weekly newspaper, had fought to halt the repeal drive until the AFL took up the cudgels.

The National Administration took no position openly to oppose the repeal of the federal income tax, which would be replaced by a national sales tax hitting the low-income groups hardest.

AID GUANTANAMO

San Francisco.—An improvement in wage scales of naval employes and acknowledgment by the navy of the workers' union were reported at Guantanamo, Cuba, Naval Base.

The action followed representations made by the AFL Metal Trades Department in behalf of the Union of Workers and Employes of the Guantanamo Naval Base whose plight was brought to AFL attention by Latin-American Representative Serafino Romualdi.

GAIN 7 TO 13 CENTS

Philadelphia.—The AFL American Federation of Hosiery Workers won 7 to 13 cents an hour increase for 11,000 workers employed by the Full Fashioned Hosiery Manufacturers of America.

SUPPORT C-Bs

San Francisco.—The AFL Building and Construction Trades Department executive council said it is cooperating with the Navy Department in recruiting Seabees (construction battalions).

The council told the department's 44th annual convention that Admiral J. F. Jelley, chief U. S. Navy Bureau of Yards and Docks, had given assurances that Seabees would not be used in competition with building and construction trades mechanics in continental United States.

RAPS "ECONOMY"

San Francisco.—President James A. Brownlow of the AFL Metal Trades Department told the 42d convention:

"Time and time again the Metal Trades Department has reiterated its belief in efficiency in operation of all government agencies. But, we submit, that the economies now being contemplated by the 82d Congress must not be at the expense of the government worker."

UNION WINS

Philadelphia.—The $336,550 damage suit of the Paterson Parchment Co., Bristol, Pa., against the AFL Paper Makers was dismissed by the U. S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

The company had sued the Paper Makers and Local 500 over a 1948 strike, charging that the union had breached the contract by violating a no-strike agreement. The Court of Appeals ruled, however, that the union had given a proper 60-day notice of termination of the contract, as provided for in the pact, and when negotiations toward a new contract failed, the "obligations of the contract ceased to exist."

Bart Tidland Dies

Albany, N. Y.—Bart Tidland, 50, Paper Makers research director, died of a heart attack on Saturday, Sept. 8. He had served in the capacity of research director since 1944.

Mr. Tidland was international representative of the International Brotherhood of Paper Makers from 1938 to 1944 and a member of the union for 18 years. He was considered an expert on job analysis for industrial safety. He was a native of Camas, Wash.

150,000 San Franciscans In AFL

San Francisco.—The history of the labor movement here dates from the discovery of gold in 1849 in California and since then this city has become one of the most completely unionized in the world.

The San Francisco Labor Council represents 150 AFL unions with a membership of 150,000 in a city of 760,000 population.

As a result, many friends awaited the coming of the 70th American Federation of Labor Convention Sept. 17 in this 50th Golden Anniversary year of the California State Federation of Labor.

The Trades Assembly of San Francisco was organized in 1878 and sent a delegate 3 years later to the historic Pittsburgh conference from which sprang the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions of the United States and Canada—later the AFL.

These and many other absorbing facts about the AFL movement, including the great general strike of 1934, are related by Jack Goldberg, president, and George W. Johns, secretary of the San Francisco Labor Council in the June issue of "The American Federationist," the monthly AFL magazine.

Probably the first concerted attempt to gain higher wages was made by the carpenters and joiners of San Francisco in the winter of 1849, when they asked for an increase from the prevailing $12 a day to $16. They got a compromise settlement—$13 for a couple of weeks, then $14 a day. Those boom-town wages of 102 years ago are not too out of line with present-day scales.

Apparently the first organization of workers took place the following year. The first trade union on the Pacific coast seems to have been the San Francisco Typographical Society, formed early in 1850. It was originated in the demand of printers for piece wages rather than day wages.

The first central labor council was formed in 1863. It was called the San Francisco Trades Union. It followed a Tailors Union strike which had been supported by other unions in the city. The central body lasted 3 years, until internal squabbles over the proposed 8-hour day destroyed it.

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In 1882 the local Trades Assembly and several unions affiliated with the new labor organization. In December, 1892, the San Francisco Trades and Labor Council was formally launched. On Feb. 4, 1893, it shortened its name to San Francisco Labor Council. The San Francisco Labor Council's official charter from the American Federation of Labor is dated May 17, 1893, a date which marks the beginning of the most important era in San Francisco labor history.

Grandson First Negro Delegate

New York.—Jeremiah Grandison of Local Assembly 1665, Knights of Labor, Pittsburgh, was the first negro delegate to the very first AFL convention ever held in 1881.

AFL Regional Director William Collins provided this historical footnote to the 70th AFL convention meeting in San Francisco Sept. 17.

"The principles laid down by that first convention of the AFL in 1881, in which membership was provided without discrimination as to creed, color or nationality, have brought great satisfaction to those who have made the fight against discrimination," Mr. Collins said.

Mr. Grandison was the first negro delegate to the first AFL convention. The first AFL president was a Jewish boy born in London and its first secretary was an Irishman from Dublin.

Movement Dates From Gold Rush; Joined 1881 Parley

AFL WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
Washington, D. C.
Published Tuesday With Supplement on Friday

Entered as second-class matter September 30, 1912, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 11, 1919.

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

Distributed Free to Bonafide Labor Press

Whole No. 2109 TUESDAY, SEPT. 11, 1951 Vol. 41, No. 37

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